

## ABSTRACT

Polymorphisms were searched in 24 varieties with large planted  
acres in Japan, and the polymorphic sites were compared among the  
5 varieties. Thus, polymorphic markers that can be used to distinguish  
varieties in a simple and quick manner were obtained. The markers  
showed distinct patterns for each of the varieties, demonstrating  
that their combination would enable the varieties to be distinguished.  
Thus, the inventors succeeded in obtaining molecular markers that  
10 can distinguish 24 rice varieties. The use of these markers enables  
closely related rice varieties to be distinguished and identified  
at the DNA level.